THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request handling runtime, comprising:

a context object logically representing an HTTP request that is received at a host application from a client application, the context object encapsulating at least one property associated with the received HTTP request; and

an event pipeline corresponding to the context object, the event pipeline having a plurality of request events, each request event having a corresponding event and generating a call-back when the event corresponding to the request event is raised and when at least one of an application and a module is registered in association with the request event, each call-back initiating each application and each module that is registered in association with the request event to process the context object.

2. The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of request events have a deterministic order.

3. The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is a synchronous request event.

4. The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is an asynchronous request event.

5. The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of request events further includes at least one request event having a non-deterministic order.

19

6.   The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of request events have a non-deterministic order.

7.   The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of non-deterministic order request events include an error event.

8.   The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 1, wherein a module is registered in association with a plurality of request events.

9.   The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 1, wherein the event pipeline is a separate instance of the event pipeline for each HTTP request that is received at the host application from a client application.

10.   The HTTP request handling runtime according to claim 1, wherein HTTP request runtime parses the received HTTP request to form the context object that logically represents the HTTP request.

11.   A method for processing a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, comprising steps of:

forming a context object that logically represents an HTTP request that is received at a host application from a client application, the context object encapsulating at least one property associated with the received request;

forming an event pipeline corresponding to the context object, the event pipeline having a plurality of request events, and each request event having a corresponding event;

generating a call-back when the event corresponding to a request event is raised and when at least one of an application and a module is registered in association with

the request event; and

initiating each application and each module that is registered in association with the request event in response to the callback for processing the context object.

12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of registering a module in association with at least one selected request event.

13. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of registering a plurality of modules in association with a selected request event.

14. The method according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of request events have a deterministic order.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is a synchronous request event.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is an asynchronous request event.

17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the plurality of request events further includes at least one request event having a non-deterministic order.

18. The method according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of request events have a non-deterministic order.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the plurality of non-deterministic order request events include an error event.

21

20. The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of forming the event pipeline corresponding to the context object forms the event pipeline as a separate instance for each HTTP request received at the host application from a client application.

21. The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of forming the context object includes a step of parsing the received HTTP request to form the context object.

22. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for processing a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request comprising steps of:

forming a context object that logically represents an HTTP request that is received at a host application from a client application, the context object encapsulating at least one property associated with the received request;

forming an event pipeline corresponding to the context object, the event pipeline having a plurality of request events, and each request event having a corresponding event;

generating a call-back event when the event corresponding to a request event is raised and when at least one of an application and a module is registered in association with the request event; and

initiating each application and each module that is registered in association with the request event in response to the callback for processing the context object.

23. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising a step of registering a module in association with at least one selected request event.

24. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising a step of registering a plurality of modules in association with a selected request event.

22

25. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the plurality of request events have a deterministic order.

26. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is a synchronous request event.

27. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein at least one of the plurality of request events is an asynchronous request event.

28. The computer-readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the plurality of request events further includes at least one request event having a non-deterministic order.

29. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the plurality of request events have a non-deterministic order.

30. The computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the plurality of non-deterministic order request events include an error event.

31. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the step of forming the event pipeline corresponding to the context object forms the event pipeline as a separate instance for each HTTP request received at the host application from a client application.

32. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the step of forming the context object includes a step of parsing the received HTTP request to form the context object.